

Sports

Tennis tournament ends Husker season

By Rob White
Staff Reporter

Nebraska's men's tennis team will conclude its fall schedule this weekend at the Tulsa Invitational as coach Kerry McDermott gets his final opportunity to see his team compete until spring.

The tournament will have an open-draw format and no team points will be kept. Along with Nebraska, other teams on hand will be Oklahoma State, Oklahoma, Oral Roberts and the host school, Tulsa.

McDermott said one advantage in the tournament is that it will give him a chance to see Oklahoma State for the first time this year.

"They were hovering around the Top 20 last year and they're a little weaker this year," McDermott said. "We haven't seen them at all this year so it will give us a chance to see their recruits first hand."

McDermott said he's hoping that he'll be able to get more consistency from his singles players and that this tournament will put them on the right track.

"The singles play has been strong at times, but it's not as consistent as it was at this time last year," McDermott said. "We need to win some close matches. Last year, we were winning a lot of the close matches, and this year, we aren't."

Improved concentration in practice will go a long way toward having more consistency in matches, McDermott said.

"I've been down on them about their concentration in practices," he said. "When you win a big match, it's usually because you win it in practice."

The Cornhuskers had a good week of practice, according to McDermott, and will enter the final fall tournament with a chance to evaluate themselves.

"We came back this week and practiced pretty well," McDermott said. "We have an idea of what we have to work on for the spring, but this will give us a chance to see what the other teams have and to see where we stand in the Big Eight."

Texas upsets No. 6 NU

By Rich Cooper
Staff Reporter

It was the best of the South against the best of the North in volleyball Thursday night at the Coliseum as No. 7 Texas defeated No. 6 Nebraska 6-15, 15-12, 15-7, 10-15, 15-13.

Coach Terry Pettit said he thought his team didn't adjust too well defensively to Texas' strong offensive attack.

"We played well at times but our passing and ball handling just were not good enough to beat them (Texas)," Pettit said.

In the first game, the Huskers scored seven straight points after a slow start. The key to winning the first game was the strong hitting of Karen Dahlgren and Enid Schonewise, Pettit said.

Dahlgren led the Huskers with 20 kills on Thursday night for a hitting percentage of .410. Schonewise had 19 kills for a hitting percentage of .348.

In the second game, Texas rallied from a 12-6 deficit by scoring six straight points behind the strong hitting of Diane Watson and Dawn Davenport. Watson led Texas in hitting with 16 kills for a hitting percentage of .323.

Pettit said Texas, even when it wasn't playing well, kept competing hard, while the Cornhuskers, at time in the match did not compete as hard.

In game three, the Longhorns jumped out to a 4-0 lead before the Huskers tied it up at five. But then behind the strong defense of the Longhorns, they scored nine straight points to win the match. In game four, the Huskers never had the lead after tying the match at 5-5.

See HUSKERS on 8

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KSU coach isn't hopeful for Saturday

By Jim Ballard
Senior Reporter

Kansas State football coach Stan Parrish knows what his team is up against Saturday.

"It's no question that it's not going to be easy," Parrish said. "We're just going to have to go out and play with our pride and hopefully get out of there alive and physically in good shape."

The Wildcats come into Memorial Stadium with a 2-5 record, and 1-2 in conference play. They opened their season with a 35-7 win over Western Illinois before dropping the next four games. Their only other win came two weeks ago against Kansas.

Parrish said tailback Tony Jordan hasn't practiced most of the week, all-purpose running back Todd Moody was questionable and free safety Robert Eastwood is out for the year with a strained arch in his foot. Eastwood was the Cats' leading defensive back with four interceptions in seven games.

Kansas State still has a healthy quarterback, junior Randy Williams. Williams has thrown for nearly 1,000 yards this year, completing 46 percent of his passes.

On the ground, however, the Wildcats have been struggling, as they are averaging only 119 yards a game.

Nebraska enters the contest 6-1 after losing 20-10 to Colorado last Saturday. Parrish said that Nebraska is a quality team despite the loss and that they should bounce back.

"It's the same thing every year," Parrish said. "They're a great team with a great program and I'm sure they'll bounce back. They still have a good shot at winning the Big Eight and going to the Orange Bowl, and they're good enough to do it."

Parrish also said he knows that there is no way his Wildcats can match up with Nebraska on the field.

"I could lie, but realistically we match up with Oklahoma either, but we played hard and did some good things. Hopefully we can do that again."

"They're solid all over, they have speed at the running backs and gave a very talented quarterback," Parrish said of the Huskers. "They have it all, but I guess you don't win 10 or 11 games every year if you didn't. They also perhaps have as good of a coach as anyone in the entire nation."

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